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Statement submitted by African Youth Movement, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council*

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 30 and 31 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* The present statement is issued without formal editing.

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Statement

Building international consensus, multilateral cooperation, and public-private partnerships to defeat transnational organized crime

Sustainable progress against terrorism and transnational organized crime requires both political commitment and effective law enforcement and criminal justice capacities on a worldwide basis. Transnational organized crime threatens the security and well-being of people around the world and jeopardizes the functioning of the global economy. Not all of these threats are equally visible to international audiences. Nigeria and Africa, therefore, need the will to reach more directly, the international community and the general public to convey that both nations and individuals share a common enemy in transnational organized crime and have a common stake in addressing this threat.

Assisting Nigeria and Africa's efforts in combating terrorism and transnational organized crime through the building of new partnerships — with industry, finance, academia, civil society, non-governmental organizations and the international community — to combat transnational organized crime networks that operate in the illicit and licit worlds is a must. We therefore call on the United Nations as a matter of urgency to set up regional courts of justice with the Africa Regional Court of Justice to be located in Nigeria to facilitate a swift dispensation of criminal justice.